

Docket No. 725.1144/DMP

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

11040 U.S. PTO  
09/825447  
04/04/01

For: **AUDIO SYSTEM AND ITS CONTENTS REPRODUCTION METHOD, AUDIO APPARATUS FOR A VEHICLE AND ITS CONTENTS REPRODUCTION METHOD, PORTABLE AUDIO APPARATUS, COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT AND COMPUTER-READABLE STORAGE MEDIUM**

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR §1.56, there is hereby provided certain information which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the subject application.

1. Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are:
  - 1a.  Form PTO-1449.
  - 1b.  Copies of IDS citations.
  - 1c.  An English language copy of search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report.
  - 1d.  English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) attached to each non-English language publication.
  - 1e.  Explanations of Relevancy of References (ATTACHMENT 1(e), hereto) for providing a concise explanation of each non-English publication.
  - 1f.  List of Copending Applications (ATTACHMENT 1(f), hereto).
2.  In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98, a concise explanation of what is presently understood to be the relevance of each non-English language publication is:

*(Check appropriate Items 2a, 2b, 2c and/or 2d)*

2a.  satisfied because all non-English language publications were cited on the enclosed English language copy of the PCT International Search Report or the search report from a counterpart foreign application indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office. (See U.S. Patent & Trademark Office's authorization in the Federal Register, Vol. 57, No. 12, January 17, 1992, at page 2031 (Reply to Comment 68).)

2b.  set forth in the application.

2c.  satisfied because an English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) is attached to each non-English language publication.

2d.  enclosed as Attachment 1(e), hereto.

3. No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report, if submitted herewith). 37 CFR §§ 1.97(g) and (h).

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

By:

  
David M. Pitcher  
Registration No. 25,908

Dated: April 4, 2001  
700 Eleventh Street, N.W., Suite 500  
Washington, D.C. 20001  
Telephone: (202) 434-1500  
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501

FORM PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 725.1144/DMP	APPLICATION NO. To Be Assigned
LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>			FIRST NAMED INVENTOR Hiroshi OHMURA, et al.	
			FILING DATE April 4, 2001	GROUP ART UNIT To Be Assigned

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA						01/28/98
	AB						
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						

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04/04/01



## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES    NO
	AG	10-240207	09/11/98	Japan		abstract	
	AH	11-030986	02/02/99	Japan		abstract	
	AI	EP 0 833 336 A1	04/01/98	Europe			X
	AJ						
	AK						
	AL						

## OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AM		
AN		
AO		
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

ATTACHMENT 1(e)

**ATTACHMENT 1(e)**

<b>EXPLANATIONS OF RELEVANCY OF REFERENCES</b>	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	APPLICATION NO.
	725.1144/DMP	
	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	
	Hiroshi OHMURA, et al.	
FILING DATE	GROUP ART UNIT	
	April 4, 2001	

Reference AI- As presently advised, Reference AI corresponds generally in disclosure to Reference AG.